



State of South Carolina  
Office of The Lieutenant Governor

André Bauer  
Lieutenant Governor

Office on Aging  
Cornelia D. Gibbons  
Director

**Media Advisory:**  
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**\$10,000 Grant from Lt. Governor's Office on Aging Will Support  
Alzheimer's Respite Program in McCormick County**

- **Who:** The McCormick County Senior Center, Executive Director, Becky McDade. Ms. McDade can be contacted at (864) 465-2626.
- **What:** This local organization that serves senior citizens and their families in your community was recently awarded a \$10,000 grant from the South Carolina Lt. Governor's Office on Aging to begin a group respite care program for individuals with Alzheimer's at the Senior Center in McCormick.
- **When:** On June 28, Lt. Governor André Bauer will personally present the grant award to Senior Center and Program leaders. Photographs of the award presentation will be available for news organizations unable to attend.
- **Where:** The grant awards ceremony will take place at the Statehouse in Columbia. Lt. Governor Bauer's Office is on the first floor.

**Background:**

Currently, no program exists in McCormick County that provides respite care in a group setting specifically for individuals suffering from Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. The McCormick County Senior Center aims to fill that gap with a new program that will provide this service one day a week. The new program will be supported by a \$10,000 seed grant from the Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center, part of the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging. The McCormick Senior Center has been providing services such as meals on wheels to the senior community in McCormick County for over 33 years.

Group respite programs provide structured activities in a safe, caring environment for individuals suffering from Alzheimer's or related disorders. These programs fulfill a tremendous need for family members and other caregivers by giving them a break from the demands of providing care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Group respite programs also greatly benefit the individual being cared for, by providing them with social interaction and exercise overseen by trained professionals.

Beth Gable, who currently oversees the Senior Center's volunteer programs, will be coordinating the new program. Community volunteers will help provide the service, and the Greenwood office of the Alzheimer's Association will also provide support and technical expertise.

The Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center (ARCC) in the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging was created to provide statewide coordination, service system development, information and referral, and caregiver support services to individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, their families and caregivers. Legislation directs the center to:

- Initiate the development of systems which coordinate the delivery of programs and services
- Facilitate the coordination and integration of research, program development, planning and quality assurance
- Identify potential users of services and gaps in the service delivery system and expand methods and resources to enhance statewide services
- Serve as a resource for education, research and training and provide information and referral services
- Provide technical assistance for the development of support groups and other local initiatives to serve individuals, families and caregivers
- Recommend public policy concerning Alzheimer's disease and related disorders to state policymakers
- Submit an annual report to the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging and to the General Assembly

A detailed demographic look at South Carolina and McCormick County's senior population based on the 2000 federal census can be found at [www.scmatureadults.org](http://www.scmatureadults.org). The report Mature Adults in South Carolina is a publication of the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging.